

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (VDSS) EARLY CHILDHOOD ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM (ECEP)

The Early Childhood Endorsement Program is designed to provide basic knowledge for working with children of specific ages (infants and toddlers or preschool). The ECEP is a collaboration between VDSS, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), and the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA).

The VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program offers two endorsements:

1. Infant and Toddler Endorsement
2. Preschool Endorsement

VDSS Early Childhood Endorsements can be valuable as:

1. Entry-level credentials for employment in the field of early childhood, or
2. Demonstration of basic knowledge in working with infants and toddlers or with preschool children, or
3. Supplements to a child-related degree or credential that does not include instruction on infants and toddlers or preschool children, or
4. Supplements to a degree or credential outside the field of early childhood, or
5. Fulfillment of professional development options for teaching licensure renewal requirements, or
6. Fulfillment of professional development options for early childhood professionals participating in Virginia's Star Quality Initiative (QRIS).

Participants have two options by which to achieve an endorsement:

1. Successful completion of the required VDSS sponsored classroom-based courses as outlined on page 9.
2. Successful completion of the required college credit courses offered by the Virginia Community College System (CHD 166 – Infant and Toddler Programs or CHD 120 – Introduction to Early Childhood Education).

Option 1 -

Participation via Completion of VDSS Sponsored Courses

Individuals who participate in the VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program (Infant and Toddler Endorsement or Preschool Endorsement) via completion of VDSS sponsored courses must:

- Register to attend component courses as outlined on page 9.
- Attend all required courses.
- Receive written and project assessments from the instructor at the end of each class (15-30 minutes).
- Complete all written and project assessments.
- Submit completed assessments for each ECEP course to VDSS for grading.
- Receive a passing score for each required course to receive the Endorsement.

Eligibility for College Credit

Upon completion of either of the Early Childhood Endorsements (Infant and Toddler or Preschool) through participation in VDSS sponsored courses, participants may choose to apply for college credit. To be eligible to apply for college credit, individuals must:

1. Achieve a grade of C or better on all course materials submitted for the ECEP.
2. Keep all materials included in the program (participant handouts, texts, graded assessments, and projects) in a portfolio for future review. Information on developing and submitting a portfolio for review to receive college credit will be distributed to successful candidates with the awarding of the VDSS ECEP Certificate of Completion.

Option 2 –

Participation via Completion of College Credit Courses

Upon successful completion of either CHD 166, Infant and Toddler Programs, or CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education, through the Virginia Community College System, individuals become eligible for the corresponding VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement. Those who successfully complete CHD 166, Infant and Toddler Programs, are eligible to apply for the VDSS Infant and Toddler Endorsement. Those who successfully complete CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education, are eligible to apply for the VDSS Preschool Endorsement.

To apply for either VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement based upon completion of college credit courses:

1. Complete the application (available at www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83).
2. Enclose a copy of the college transcript indicating completion of the course(s) or a Letter of Completion from your instructor. You must receive a passing grade to qualify for the Endorsement.
3. Submit application, transcript or letter, and \$10.00 processing fee for each endorsement requested to VDSS.

For additional information, please contact:

Aleta Lawson

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Development
Virginia Department of Social Services
(804) 726-7468

ecep@dss.virginia.gov

www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83

VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program Courses

I. Infant and Toddler Endorsement

The Infant and Toddler Endorsement requires completion of the following 12 courses. Each course will be offered once per year as outlined below:

Each Spring

Beyond Babble: Exploring Early Language Development (pg 13)
Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting (pg 13)
Health Screening for Child Care Professionals (pg 16)
Understanding Temperaments to Help Infants and Toddlers Learn and Develop (pg 21)

Each Fall

Part 1 - Ages and Stages of Development for Infants and Toddlers
Part 2 - Creating an Appropriate Learning Environment for Infants and Toddlers
Part 3 - Planning Activities for Infants and Toddlers
Part 4 - Guiding the Behaviors of Infants and Toddlers
Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents
Observation and Recording: It's Not Always Obvious
Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment

Self-Study

Early Childhood Theorists
(For registration information contact: ecep@dss.virginia.gov or (804) 726-7468.)

II. Preschool Endorsement

The Preschool Endorsement requires completion of the following 12 courses. Each course will be offered once per year as outlined below:

Each Spring

Part 1 - Ages and Stages of Development of Preschoolers Ages Three to Five (pg 12)
Part 2 - Creating an Age Appropriate Learning Environment for Preschoolers (pg 14)
Part 3 - Planning Age and Stage Appropriate Activities for Preschoolers (pg 20)
Part 4 - Guiding the Behaviors of Preschool Children Ages Three to Five (pg 15)
Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting (pg 13)
Health Screening for Child Care Professionals (pg 16)

Each Fall

Every Teacher is a Brain Surgeon - Exploring Brain Development – Part 1
Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents
Observation and Recording: It's Not Always Obvious
Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment
Reframing Discipline Part 1: From Stopping Misbehavior to Teaching Skills

Self-Study

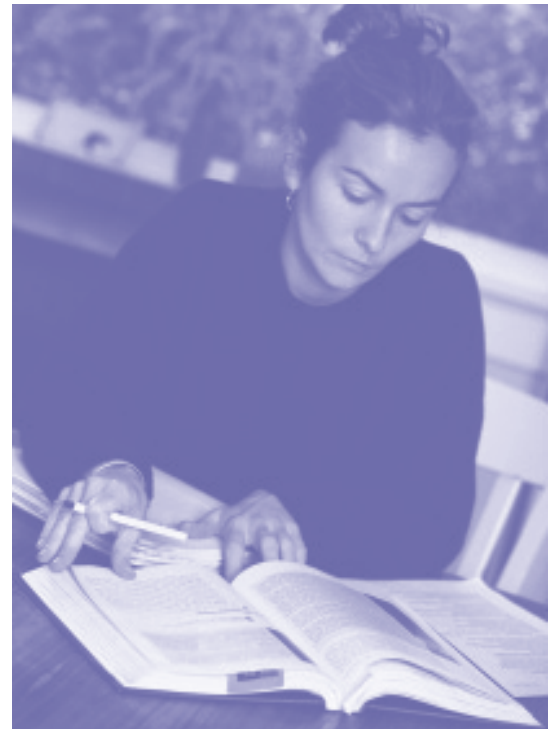
Early Childhood Theorists
(For registration information contact: ecep@dss.virginia.gov or (804) 726-7468.)

Class Registration Information

Class registration information and forms are available in this catalog on pages 2 - 5.

Additional Information

Contact: ecep@dss.virginia.gov, or (804) 726-7468.





MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION TRAINING (MAT) PROGRAM

MAT Requirements for Licensed and Regulated Child Day Programs

Code of Virginia

Drug Control Act CHAPTER 34.

§ 54.1-3408. Professional use by practitioners.

N. In addition, this section shall not prevent the administration of drugs by a person to a child in a child day program as defined in § 63.2-100 and regulated by the State Board of Social Services or the Child Day Care Council, provided such person (i) has satisfactorily completed a training program for this purpose approved by the Board of Nursing and taught by a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or pharmacist; (ii) has obtained written authorization from a parent or guardian; (iii) administers drugs only to the child identified on the prescription label in accordance with the prescriber's instructions pertaining to dosage, frequency, and manner of administration; and (iv) administers only those drugs that were dispensed from a pharmacy and maintained in the original, labeled container that would normally be administered by a parent or guardian to the child.

Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers

The regulation for child day centers contains a standard (22 VAC 15-30-310.D) that goes beyond the requirements of the law and requires medication administration training for anyone who administers prescription AND non-prescription medications.

Child Day Programs	Medication Administration Training
Child day centers (licensed)	Training required for administration of Prescription and Non-Prescription medications
Family day homes (licensed)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Religiously exempt child day centers (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Voluntarily registered family day homes (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Family day homes approved by a (licensed) Family Day System	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications
Certified preschools (regulated)	Training required only for administration of Prescription medications

Important Information

- **Best Practice** - The Medication Administration Training for Child Day Programs teaches BEST PRACTICE and covers the administration of all medications, both prescription and non-prescription.
- **MAT Recertification** – MAT Certification is valid for three (3) years from the issue date indicated on the MAT Certificate. Providers and/or staff members must be recertified prior to the date the certificate expires in order to continue to administer medication to children in a child day program.
- **Two Options for Completing the MAT Course:**
 - **Classroom-based** – Providers may choose to complete the MAT course in a classroom setting with an approved MAT Trainer. Providers must attend the entire class and successfully pass the written and skills competencies. **Class size is limited to 8 participants.**
 - **Independent Study** – Providers may choose to complete the MAT course by independent study. The MAT Independent Study is made up of two parts. Part One is a self-paced, online review of the MAT course content using MAT course handouts, video segments and independent exercises. Part Two consists of hands-on practice time and testing with an approved MAT Trainer. Providers must successfully pass the written skills competencies. **Class size for Part Two of the MAT Independent Study is limited to 3 participants.** For more information on the MAT Independent Study go to: https://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc_providertrain/mat/index.cgi, click on MAT Independent Study.
- **Find a MAT or PMAT Class** - To find Medication Administration Training (MAT) and Pre-Medication Administration Training (PMAT) classes, visit the VDSS Web site at: www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83, click on TIPS (Training Information for Provider Success) Calendar and scroll through the class listings. Be sure to contact the class sponsor for class details or registration information.
- **Find/Contact an Approved MAT Trainer** - To find/contact an approved Medication Administration Training (MAT) trainer, visit the VDSS Web site at: www.dss.virginia.gov/redirect/?83, click on (MAT) Medication Administration Training, click on Find a MAT Trainer Near You.
- **Get Answers to MAT Questions** – To get answers to questions specific to the MAT Program contact: MAT@dss.virginia.gov.